

In the Claims

Please amend the Claims as follows:

Claim 1 (currently amended) An isolated RNAIII Activating Protein ~~RAP~~ polypeptide having an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 13.

Claims 2-4 (cancelled)

Claim 5 (currently amended) A vaccine comprising the RNAIII Activating Protein ~~RAP~~ polypeptide of claim 1 or an antigenically ~~antigenic ally~~ effective portion thereof, and a pharmaceutically ~~phannaaceutically~~ acceptable carrier.

Claim 6 (cancelled)